

C1

- b) filtering the solution,
- c) precipitating the alginate out of the solution,
- d) collecting and dewatering the precipitated alginate, and
- e) repeating the steps a) to d) at least once.

C2

42. (Amended) A process according to Claim 29, wherein the algae material used in the process is an alginate-producing fresh-water or salt-water algae.

C3

52. (Amended) An alginate composition, manufactured by the process according to claim 29, comprising a mixed polymer of mannuronic acid and guluronic acid, in which the ratio of mannuronic acid to guluronic acid in the mixed polymer is in the range from about 0.1 to about 9, and the mean molecular weight of the mixed polymer is greater than about 350 kD.

Please add new Claim 56, as follows:

C4

56. (New) A process according to Claim 29, wherein the algae material used in the process is brown algae.